

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OES-06 AGRE-00 EB-08
TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /140 W
-----021839Z 024178 /43

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2239

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0282

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP, EAID

SUBJECT: 23RD UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: ITEM 5, COUNTRY AND
INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

REF: USUN 245

1. SUMMARY: THIS LENGTHY AND KEY ITEM WAS INTRODUCED BY
UNDP DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, MR. I. G. PATEL ON JANUARY
25, WITH DISCUSSIONS EXTENDING THROUGH JANUARY 28. THE GLOBAL,
INTERREGIONAL AND FOUR REGIONAL PROGRAMS FOR THE SECOND UNDP
PROGRAMMING CYCLE (1977-81) WERE DISCUSSED AND APPROVED IN
PLENARY SESSION TOGETHER WITH THE GLOBAL PROJECT "THE INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE OF INSECT PHYSIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY (ICIPE) PHASE II"
(GLO/76/004). THE UNDP SECOND CYCLE COUNTRY PROGRAMS FOR BURUNDI,
CHILE, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUYANA, HAITI, HONDURAS,
JAMAICA, LESOTHO, LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC, MADAGASCAR, PERU,
ROMANIA, PHILIPPINES AND THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF YEMEN WERE FIRST DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION AND APPROVED
BY PLENARY SESSION JANUARY 28. DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION
FOR GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROJECTS, MR. WILLIAN MASHLER;
AND THE REGIONAL BUREAU HEADS; ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR AFRICA, MR. MICHEL DOO KINGUE, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR EUROPE, MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST, MR. STIG
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ANDERSEN; ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC,
MR. RAJENDRA COOMARASWAMY, AND ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR LATIN AMERICAN, MR. GABRIEL VALDEZ, SUMMARIZED THE
TRENDS, PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS THE LINKAGES BETWEEN THEM. THE U.S.
JOINED WITH MORE THAN 20 OTHER DELEGATIONS IN COMMENTING
ON THE PROGRAMS. (U.S. STATEMENTS FOLLOW SEPARATELY.)

THE MAJOR DISSENTING NOTE, LED BY SWEDEN, THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHERS, WAS STRUCK AGAINST THE CHILE COUNTRY PROGRAM ON GROUNDS THAT THE GOVERNMENT VIOLATED PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE. ALSO APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL UNDER THIS AGENDA ITEM WERE PROPOSALS AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO USE UP TO \$25,000 OF THE GLOBAL IPF FOR PREPARATORY WORK IN ANY GIVEN FIELD WITHOUT PRIOR COUNCIL APPROVAL, AND TO SET ASIDE 0.1 PERCENT A YEAR OF THE INTERCOUNTRY IPF FOR PROGRAM AND PROJECT PREPARATION AND REVIEW; AS WELL AS GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO APPROVE PROJECTS UP TO \$400,000. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR PATEL INTRODUCED THE FIRST PART OF THE DISCUSSIONS, EXPLAINING THE ORIENTATION AND PROGRAMMING PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE FORMULATION OF THE GLOBAL AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMS. HE NOTED THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THE GOVERNING COUNCIL WAS TO REVIEW THESE PROGRAMS. MR. PATEL POINTED OUT THAT DP/215, THE NOTE BY THE ADMINISTRATOR SUMMARIZING THE PROPOSED GLOBAL AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMS INDICATED THE SEPARATE BUT COMPLEMENTARY NATURE OF THESE PROGRAMS. HE NOTED, REGARDING THE PROPOSED GLOBAL PROGRAM (DP/216), THAT WHILE THE AIM OF INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION WOULD REMAIN IMPORTANT, NEW EMPHASIS WOULD BE PLACED ON OTHER AREAS, PARTICULARLY TROPICAL DISEASES, NON-FOOD CROPS, FISHERIES, TECHNOLOGY, ENERGY AND EMPLOYMENT.

3. MR. MASHLER ALSO SPOKE BRIEFLY ON THE GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROGRAMS. HE EMPHASIZED THEIR RATIONALE, UNCLASSIFIED

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THEIR VITALITY AND THEIR ATTENTION TO THE RURAL AND URBAN POOR.

4. THE COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL (INCLUDING THE USG'S WHICH FOLLOW SEPARATELY) WERE GENERALLY COMPLIMENTARY, PARTICULARLY ABOUT THE SUBSTANCE OF DP/215. CANADA, POLAND AND NORWAY CITED THE DOCUMENT AS AN AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING, CALLING ATTENTION TO ITS LUCIDITY AND ORDERLY FORMAT. CANADA ALSO EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE \$50.2 MILLION EARMARKED FOR GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR 1977-81 NOT ONLY WAS A GOOD USE OF SCARCE RESOURCES BUT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MINIMUM AMOUNT. THAILAND, HOWEVER, CRITICIZED THE INVOLVEMENT OF TOO MANY SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE LACK OF COMPATIBILITY OF THESE ACTIVITIES WITH NATIONAL PLANS. MORE CONCENTRATION ON LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS WAS SUGGESTED. SWEDEN TOOK THE POSITION THAT THE THEME OF THE RESOLUTIONS EMANATING FROM UN FORA BE CARRIED OUT IN GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROGRAMS. EMPHASIS WAS ALSO PLACED (NETHERLANDS AND SWEDEN) ON THE NEED FOR GLOBAL ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING THE LDCS WITH SOME SERIOUS DOUBT EXPRESSED THAT THE PROPOSED

SOUTH OCEAN FISHERIES PROJECT WOULD IN FACT BENEFIT THEM. INDIA URGED THAT GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES BE MORE RESULT-ORIENTED AND FOCUSED MORE HEAVILY ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES SECTORS. TUNISIA PLEADED THAT RESEARCH BE GIVEN A HIGHER PRIORITY. THE UK SUGGESTED THAT A FULLER DESCRIPTION BE GIVEN OF INTERREGIONAL PROJECTS. VIRTUALLY THE ONLY POLITICAL TONE WAS STRUCK BY THE LIBERATION FRONT OF THE SOMALI COAST WHICH ATTACKED THE FRENCH "COLONIAL" ATTEMPTS TO UNDERMINE CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS IN THE AREA.

5. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO USE UP TO \$25,000 OF THE GLOBAL IPF FOR PREPARATORY WORK IN ANY GIVEN FIELD WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL. THE U.S. AND SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS REQUESTED THAT REPORTS BE MADE SUBSEQUENTLY ON ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY THIS MEANS. THE COUNCIL ALSO APPROVED THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REQUEST TO SET ASIDE

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0.1 PERCENT A YEAR OF THE INTERCOUNTRY IPF FOR PROGRAM AND PROJECT PREPARATION AND REVIEW.

6. THE FOUR REGIONAL PROGRAMS: AFRICA (DP/219); ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (DP/217), EUROPE, MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST (DP/218) AND LATIN AMERICA (DP/225) WERE INTRODUCED BY THE RESPECTIVE UNDP REGIONAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS. EACH SPOKE GENERALLY ABOUT THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SETTING OF HIS OWN REGION AND THE PRIORITIES ADDRESSED BY THE PROPOSED PROGRAM.

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TRSE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /140 W
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7. A NUMBER OF INTERVENTIONS FOLLOWED, THE MOST SURPRISING ONE BEING THE SOVIET UNION'S WHICH STRONGLY APPEALED FOR THE USE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING FACILITIES IN SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA AS A MEANS OF UTILIZING RUBLES AND SATISFYING MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS OF THE ASIA REGION. DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR PATEL RESPONDED THAT COUNTRY IPFS WOULD HAVE TO BE TAPPED IN THOSE CASES WHERE COUNTRY PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED SUCH REQUIREMENTS, AND ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR ANDERSEN NOTED HIS AWARENESS THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAD HAD DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT WITH ILO. THERE WERE COMMENTS ALSO REGRETTING THE ABSENCE OF DETAILS IN THE DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL PROVIDED IN THE DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED; MORE INNOVATIVE APPROACHES WERE RECOMMENDED (BRAZIL); BETTER LINKAGES AMONG GLOBAL, INTERREGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROGRAMS IN PARTICULAR WERE STRONGLY URGED (CANADA); AND THE NEED FOR SOCIAL PRIORITIES WAS ALSO EMPHASIZED (NETHERLANDS). KUWAIT TOOK THE OCCASION TO RECOMMEND STRONGLY THAT THE UNDP ESTABLISH A SEPARATE REGIONAL BUREAU FOR THE MIDDLE EAST.

8. DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR PATEL SUMMED UP THESE DISCUSSIONS BY EMPHASIZING THE DOUBLE IMPACT OF GLOBAL, INTERREGIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES: THEIR EXPERIMENTAL NATURE AND THEIR PRE-INVESTMENT APPROACH. OVERALL THEY ARE INTENDED UNCLASSIFIED

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TO HAVE A CATALYTIC EFFECT WHEREVER POSSIBLE. THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR ASSURED THE COUNCIL THAT JOINT FUNDING (MULTI-BILATERAL OR SPECIALIZED AGENCY FINANCING) WOULD BE SOUGHT FOR THESE PROGRAMS. HE ALSO LAID STRESS ON THE PARTICIPATORY ROLE OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT GLOBAL AND INTERREGIONAL ACTIVITIES WERE TO RECEIVE ONLY SHORT-TERM FINANCING FROM UNDP AND THAT, HOPEFULLY, NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS COULD ASSUME FOLLOW-UP FINANCING AND/OR INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT. FUTURE REPORTING ON SUCH PROGRAMS WILL HENCEFORTH BE PROVIDED TO THE ADMINISTRATOR'S ANNUAL REPORT. ADDITIONALLY, REGARDING THE GLOBAL PROJECT BEFORE THE COUNCIL, MR. MASHLER ASSURED THE COUNCIL THAT A SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAD BEEN CREATED TO PROVIDE PERIODIC, INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS, AND THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD BE CONSULTED BEFORE ANY FURTHER COMMITMENT IS MADE TO CONTINUE THE EXISTING PRELIMINARY SURVEY. DISCUSSION ON THIS SECTION CONCLUDED WITH THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS OF THE GLOBAL, INTERREGIONAL AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS.

9. THE GOVERNING COUNCIL PRESIDENT SUBSEQUENTLY GAVELLED THE MEETING INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO REVIEW THE FIFTEEN COUNTRY PROGRAMS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL. DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR PATEL OPENED THE DISCUSSION REFERRING TO DP/231 WHICH, HE NOTED, WAS THE FIRST DOCUMENT TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL IN WHICH SPECIAL OVERALL PROBLEMS AND PROGRAM TRENDS WERE DISCUSSED. HE HIGHLIGHTED THE FOLLOWING POINTS: EACH COUNTRY PROGRAM WAS DIRECTLY ATTUNED TO THE PRIORITIES OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRY; SOCIAL EQUITY WAS A RECURRENT THEME WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION BEING PLACED ON THE POOR; PRE-INVESTMENT WAS CONSIDERED; UNPROGRAMMED RESERVES WERE ALLOWED IN ALL CASES. HE CANDIDLY STATED THAT THE PROGRAMMING PROCESS COULD STILL BE IMPROVED -- E.G., THE COORDINATION OF OTHER AID INPUTS WAS NOT ALWAYS CLEAR AND THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT INDICATION OF THE DEGREE

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OF USE OF THE "NEW DIMENSIONS" CONCEPT.

10. THE UNDP REGIONAL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS INTRODUCED THE COUNTRY PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS. IN THE CASE OF AFRICA, MENTION WAS MADE OF SEVERAL UNGA RESOLUTIONS AFFECTING CERTAIN COUNTRIES SUCH AS MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA AND THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS; FOR EUROPE, MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST, PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS DRAWN TO ROMANIA'S COVERING ALL UNDP FIELD OFFICE COSTS AND THE INCLUSION OF FUNDS-IN-TRUST ARRANGEMENTS IN LIBYA.

11. THE U.S. JOINED WITH 22 OTHER DELEGATIONS TO COMMENT ON THE COUNTRY PROGRAMS (U.S. STATEMENT FOLLOWS SEPARATELY). THE MAJOR DISSENTING NOTE, LED BY SWEDEN WHICH SPOKE FOR THE NORDIC GROUP AND THE SOVIET UNION AND CERTAIN OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, WAS STRUCK AGAINST THE CHILE PROGRAM WHICH WAS OPPOSED ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE GOVERNMENT RESTRICTED CIVIL RIGHTS AND VIOLATED PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE. GENERAL AGREEMENT WAS OTHERWISE EXPRESSED WITH SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS EMERGING: THE EQUIPMENT COMPONENT OF SOME PROJECTS WAS FOUND TO BE RELATIVELY HIGH (FRG AND U.S.); MORE DATA WERE REQUESTED ON THE EFFORTS OF OTHER AID DONORS (BELGIUM). THERE WAS ALSO A CONSENSUS THAT THE QUALITY OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAM DOCUMENTS HAD IMPROVED OVER EARLIER SUBMISSIONS. THE NETHERLANDS AND FRG NOTED IN ADDITION THAT A NUMBER OF COUNTRY PROGRAMS HAD BEEN WELL COORDINATED WITH THEIR OWN BILATERAL EFFORTS.

12. FOLLOWING THE FOREGOING COMMENTARY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL PRESIDENT CONCLUDED THE CLOSED SESSION, OPENED THE COUNCIL TO PUBLIC SESSION AND, IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY

DISSENTING VOICE, STATED THAT THE COUNCIL HAD APPROVED
ALL OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMS. FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF THE
PROGRAMS BY CONSENSUS, HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS
REITERATED THEIR CRITICISM OF THE CHILE PROGRAM. THE
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UNDP ADMINISTRATOR'S PROPOSAL TO GRANT AUTHORITY TO
RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO APPROVE PROJECTS UP TO \$400,000
WAS ALSO PASSED. IN THIS CONNECTION, HOWEVER, THE DEPUTY
ADMINISTRATOR MADE CLEAR THAT SUCH AUTHORITY WOULD NOT
NECESSARILY BE GRANTED ACROSS THE BOARD
BUT WOULD BE PERMITTED IN SELECTIVE CASES AFTER THOROUGH
HEADQUARTERS' REVIEW OF ALL PENDING PROJECTS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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